

**From:** Michael C. Appe  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/25/02 11:02am  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

TO: Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

This brief note is intended to express my support for a quick settlement to the prolonged ordeal that is the Microsoft anti-trust case. This case is ripe for settlement. An agreement exists which has your Department's preliminary blessing, the concurrence of Microsoft and most of the state complainants and the sanction of the trial court. There is no rational reason not to ratify this agreement.

The settlement requires Microsoft to offer its Windows products to computer manufacturers at uniform terms, without exclusive software tie-ins. It requires Microsoft to configure new Windows systems in ways that embrace the use of non-Microsoft software. It obligates Microsoft to essentially open up its technology to its competitors. In return for this and more Microsoft may continue to exist in its present corporate state. This is a fair compromise.

Let us allow this productive company to get back to the business of leading the IT industry and our economy into the new century.

Sincerely,

Michael Appe  
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Alton, NH 03809